

Dear Upper School Families,

The Upper School is the capstone of the Heathwood Hall experience, and whether you and your student have been Highlanders since preschool or whether you are just joining us this year, we are excited for you to be a part of our community and can't wait to see you in August.

Here on campus, the Upper School team has been busily preparing for the fall, and we want to share with you some information that will help you as you also get ready for this upcoming school year. You will find a great deal of information on the school's [Back-to-School page](#) (going live today!), and there will be more communication throughout the summer. In other words, don't panic if this letter doesn't cover everything. I also hope you'll feel free to reach out if you have any specific questions.

Again, we are looking forward to a great 2021-2022 school year!

Warmly,

George S. Scouten, Ph.D.

Upper School Head & Asst. Head of School

Lisa Norman

Academic Dean & Asst. Upper School Head

When will we receive schedules and advisor assignments for next year?

- Schedules and advisor assignments will be available online when the Virtual Bookstore opens in late July.
- Families new to Heathwood, if they have not already done so, should schedule a meeting with Lisa Norman (lnorman@heathwood.org) to review your incoming course work, to take placement tests (if necessary), and to make course selections for the upcoming year. This is an excellent opportunity for both academic advisement and to get a further feel for the school. Returning students already registered for courses this spring.

How do we order our books?

- The Virtual Bookstore is what families use to purchase consumables and/or rent textbooks for the school year. The Virtual Bookstore will know the specific textbooks, workbooks, and novels that your child will need per his/her schedule. More

information will be shared in mid-July regarding how families will access The Virtual Bookstore.

Where do we locate summer reading?

- Summer reading requirements can be on the Back-to-School page of our website on June 15.

How do students sign up for and try out for athletics?

- To participate in athletics, students must register on [Family ID](#).
- Once registered, students will receive information about summer practices. If you are considering participating in a fall sport, we encourage you to register as soon as possible.

When is orientation--and who should attend?

- Heathwood Hall's new student orientation is on Monday, August 16 for every 9th grader and all other students new to our school. Students and their parent(s) should attend.
- Every student will be assigned a 90-minute orientation slot, with sessions starting at 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30. All families will meet the Upper School Administrative team for a general information session, followed by individual student-parent-advisor meetings. Ninth graders will also receive their MacBook at orientation. (Students in grades 10-12 will continue to participate in a "bring-your-own-device" laptop program.)
- Students should look neat for orientation, but they do not need to be in school dress code.

When is the first day of school?

- The first day of school is Wednesday, August 18 at 8:10 a.m. For the Upper School, dismissal will be at 11:30 in advance of the annual school truck rodeo. Students (and their families) are invited to purchase lunch from a variety of food trucks and eat lunch together on campus to celebrate the first day of school. We have regular school days (8:10-3:05) and regular lunch service starting Thursday, August 19.

What is the dress code--and how can I purchase uniforms?

- We have made revisions to the Dress Code that will be posted on the back-to-school button and detailed in the Upper School Handbook. Students should be in dress code every day unless the administration announces a special day.
- Uniforms can be purchased on campus at the Plaid Peddler or from the Heathwood uniform section on the Land's End website.
- The summer hours for The Plaid Peddler are as follows: June 1st - July 15th - open 9:00 am-1:00 pm and by appointment in the afternoon until 4:00 pm. Starting July

15th the store will be open 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday.

When do parents get to meet their student's Upper School teachers?

- While 9th graders, new students, and their parents will meet advisors during orientation, all families will have the opportunity to meet their students' teachers during **Back-to-School Night**. Please hold Wednesday, September 8 at 6:30 p.m. for this special evening in the life of our school.

Does community service done over the summer count towards my student's hours?

- Students are required to accrue 20 hours of community service per year with a nonprofit organization, and they are welcome to complete some or all of those hours during the summer break. Students will have opportunities to earn some of their hours with school-sponsored activities as well.
- Hours must be documented on the appropriate Community Service Certification of Completion form (also on the back-to-school button) and signed by the adult supervisor (which may not be a parent). Please submit any summer hours within the first thirty days of the school year, either by turning in a physical copy to the Upper School office or by emailing them to Jill Williams (jwilliams@heathwood.org).

Where can I find more information?

- The Back-to-School Button on the Heathwood [website](#) is now available. On it, you will find:
 - All-School Academic Calendar
 - Health Forms
 - Plaid Peddler Hours
 - A Copy of this Upper School Welcome Letter
 - Community Service Information
 - Vehicle Registration
 - Much, much more